

**CHESTER-LE-STREET  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**



**HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
6, RED ROSE TERRACE,  
CHESTER-LE-STREET.**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**FOR THE YEAR 1954.**

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**J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.**  
**Medical Officer of Health.**



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# MEMBERS OF HEALTH AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, 1954

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Councillors:

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C. S. Brown.  
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R. W. Brown.  
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R. W. Walker.  
H. Wilkins.  
Mrs. F. O. Winn.  
N. Yarrow.

# CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
6, RED ROSE TERRACE,  
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Chester-le-Street Rural District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For the first eight months of the year 1954 the Council was without a Medical Officer of Health.

Owing to the lack of an M.O.H. for this period there were some outstanding matters to be dealt with, especially in connection with requests for priority rehousing on medical grounds. These had been investigated in almost all cases by the end of the year.

With regard to the health of the community during 1954, as shown by the various statistics available in the Health Department; the death rate has shown a slight rise and the birth rate a slight fall. The Infantile Mortality Rate has risen slightly. With regard to Tuberculosis, the number of deaths during the year has fallen to 6—the lowest figure ever recorded in the area. Unfortunately, the number of notifications has not shown the same trend. In fact the number was almost double that for 1953.

Once again I am pleased report that there were no cases of diphtheria. The total number of cases of infectious disease notified fell from 574 to 423.

The Housing situation shows little improvement. 274 new houses became available for letting during the year. Once again we can only hope for an improvement next year, so that the effect of adequate housing of the population may be shown in the future, by an improvement in the Vital Statistics.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued help and support.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. L. SIDDLE,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

#### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Commenced duties as  
M.O.H.—16th August, 1954).

#### SANITARY INSPECTORS—

CHARLES W. ROBSON, C.R.S.I. and Certificate in Meat  
Inspection of the R.S.I. (Southern Area).

TOM SAYER, M.R.S.I., C.R.S.T. and Certificate in Meat  
Inspection of the R.S.I. (Northern Area).

#### ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR—

GEOFFREY NUTTER, C.R.S.I. and Certificate in Meat  
Inspection of the R.S.I. (Resigned—24th June, 1954).

KENNETH ROBERTSHAW (Appointed—1st November, 1954).

#### RODENT OFFICER—

WILLIAM MAUGHAN.

#### DISINFECTANT ATTENDANT—

JOHN CORKER.

#### CLERICAL STAFF—

VICTOR MOORE,

MARY ELIZABETH HARLAND.

A 50% grant is payable in respect of the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspectors.

# SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

			1954	1953	1931
AREA (acres)	...	...	22,226	<del>23,261</del> 23,226	26,925
POPULATION	...	...	41,110	41,430*	52,991
PERSONS PER ACRE	...		1.76	1.78	1.97
INHABITED HOUSES	...		12,102	11,785	12,026
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	£180,729	£174,614	£173,350
PENNY RATE PRODUCT	...		£664	£651	£635

\* Registrar General's mid-year estimate including members of the armed forces stationed in area.





TABLE 1

## BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1953.

Based on Registrar-General's Provisional Figures	Rate per 1000 Home Population	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Home Population.							Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Registered)	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fevers	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years).	Total deaths under one year
England and Wales	15.2	23.4	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.8	25.5
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	16.8	25.5	12.0	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.87	29.1
160 Smaller Towns estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1951...	15.4	22.3	11.3	00.0	0.00	0.49	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.5	23.7
Chester-le-Street R.D.	16.00	18.2	11.14	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.5	34.9

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population for 1954 was 41,110, as compared with 41,430 for 1953.

The population trend is shown by the figures given for the past ten years.

						<i>Reg. General's Est. population</i>
1945	...	...	...	...	...	39,190
1946	...	...	...	...	...	40,720
1947	...	...	...	...	...	40,970
1948	...	...	...	...	...	40,850
1949	...	...	...	...	...	41,270
1950	...	...	...	...	...	41,180
1951	...	...	...	...	...	40,670
1952	...	...	...	...	...	40,710
1953	...	...	...	...	...	41,430
1954	...	...	...	...	...	41,110

### POPULATION OF PARISHES (1951 Census figures)

<i>Parish</i>					<i>Population 1951 Census</i>
Biddick South	...	...	...	...	41
Birtley	...	...	...	...	12,232
Bournmoor	...	...	...	...	1,588
Edmondsley	...	...	...	...	1,600
Harraton	...	...	...	...	3,057
Lambton	...	...	...	...	80
Lamesley	...	...	...	...	3,346
Great Lumley	...	...	...	...	1,525
Little Lumley	...	...	...	...	1,383
Ouston	...	...	...	...	991
Pelton	...	...	...	...	5,826
Plawsworth	...	...	...	...	1,762
Urpeth	...	...	...	...	2,046
Waldridge	...	...	...	...	644
Sacriston	...	...	...	...	4,871

## Births

There was a slight decrease in the Birth Rate as compared with 1953. Total births were 658 for 1954, and 697 for 1953.

### Live Births—

Legitimate: 309 male, 331 female.	Total	640
Illegitimate: 11 male, 7 female.	Total	18

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.0
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.8
Still Births (7 female, 6 male). Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.2

## Deaths

The number of deaths during 1954 was 458, compared with 428 for 1953. The crude death rate being 11.1 for 1954; 10.3 was the figure for 1953.



TABLE 2.

## Deaths

The following table shows the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar General's figures):

<i>Causes of Death</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	...	<b>255</b>	<b>203</b>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3. Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
4. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
8. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9. Other Infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	8	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	17	—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, <del>stomach</del>	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
14. Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	21	23
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
16. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	35	33
18. Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	38	21
19. Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	11	10
20. Other heart diseases	...	...	...	...	...	34	24
21. Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	15	10
22. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
23. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	10	16
24. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	9	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	17	14
33. Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
34. All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	11	11
35. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	1	—

TABLE 3

The following were the chief causes of death during the year :

	1953		1954	
	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>% of total deaths</i>	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>% of total deaths</i>
1. Diseases of heart and circulatory system ...	225	52.6	231	50.4
2. Cancer ... ..	74	17.3	89	19.4
3. Respiratory diseases ...	32	7.5	43	9.4
4. Violence (4 road traffic deaths, 22 other violent causes, 3 suicide) ... ..	26	6.1	29	6.3
5. Tuberculosis (all forms)	9	2.1	6	1.3

There has been little change in the proportional distribution of the deaths during the year.

Diseases of the heart and circulatory system continue to be the chief causes of death, being responsible for half of the deaths. Cancer, which is second, was responsible for about one-fifth of all the deaths during the year. Deaths from respiratory disease, have risen somewhat since last year as have the deaths from violence. Those killed by motor vehicle accidents numbered four, this being a reduction of 2 as compared with 1953. However, all other accidents show a figure of 22, being a rise of 7 deaths over the number for 1953.

In the report for 1953 note was made of the number of deaths in the district from cancer of the lung. This disease has been, and still is being investigated from all aspects, in an effort to decide the cause. As we know from the newspapers, smoking has been stated to be a contributory factor, whilst other agents such as exhaust fumes have been blamed. Whatever may be the cause, and whatever explanation is made, it must explain why this disease attacks the male population in preference to the female. In 1953 in the district, there were 9 deaths from this disease—all of them males. This figure has risen to 17 in 1954, all males—no deaths from this cause in females being recorded.

## Infantile Mortality

Deaths in children under 1 year of age numbered 23 as compared with 21 in 1953. This gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 34.9 which is a slight rise on the previous year's figure. It is considerably higher than the figure for England and Wales as a whole.

Of the deaths, there were 16 under 4 weeks of age, and 7 between this age and 1 year. Those in the latter group can, in many cases be looked upon as preventable deaths, and it is in this group that the great improvements have been made in recent years. In this group we see 4 deaths from pneumonia, and one from gastro-enteritis.

The neo-natal deaths (deaths within 1 month of birth) include 8, caused by prematurity. It seems obvious that if we can improve on the figure of deaths from prematurity, we can lower the infantile mortality rate considerably. It would seem that prematurity is now the main problem requiring every possible attention.



TABLE 4

## INFANT DEATH ANALYSIS.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Premature Birth	7	1	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
Congenital Malformation	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	1	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Accidents...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Cerebral Damage	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
TOTAL	13	2	...	1	16	2	4	...	1	23



## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### (1) Laboratory Facilities

These continue to be provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle, under the direction of Dr. R. Norton.

Particulars of examinations undertaken are given below:—

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Positive</i>
Diphtheria ...	1	—
Tuberculosis ...	388	110
Miscellaneous ...	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	51	4

### (2) Local Health Authority Services

The Administrative County is divided up into twelve areas. Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural Districts forming No. 4 Area. For each area, a Health Sub-Committee has been appointed to exercise on behalf of the County Health Committee, certain functions relating to services under the National Health Services Act 1946.

All day-to-day administration of the County Service is carried out by County Headquarters. The Area Medical Officer deputises for the County Medical Officer of Health at quarterly meetings of the Area Sub-Committee.

#### (a) Health Visitor Service

There are 5 Health Visitors employed by the County Council working in the Chester-le-Street Rural District. A survey of the work done by them is given below:—

##### *Visits paid to:—*

Maternity and Child Welfare	...	...	...	...	9,540
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1,281
School Work	...	...	...	...	964
General Health	...	...	...	...	109
Mental Deficiency	...	...	...	...	412
Aged People	...	...	...	...	2

##### *Summary:—*

Ineffective Visits	...	...	...	...	1,292
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	13,600
Number of effective visits	...	...	...	...	12,308
Time (as days) spent on visits (Routine, other and ineffective)	...	...	...	...	553
Average daily number of effective visits per health visitor	...	...	...	...	22



*Clinics, etc., Work:—*Time (as Days)  
Spent:—

(a) at Maternal and Child Welfare Clinics	...	...	318
(b) at Chest Clinics and contact sessions	...	...	160
(c) at School Head to Head inspections	...	...	24
(d) conducting children to special schools	...	...	1
(e) assisting with school medical inspections	...	...	9
(f) at School Clinics	...	...	8

*(b) Clinics*

In the rural district during the year the County Council had 3 clinics which were utilised in connection with local health authority services in the district. In some cases the clinics held in the Urban District are more convenient for certain of the rural district inhabitants so that these have been included in the table below.

Address of Centre	Sessions
Hexham Villa, Birtley. Telephone No. 52.	<i>Ante-Natal</i> ... Mondays weekly except last morning in month. <i>Child Welfare</i> ... Friday mornings. <i>Birth Control—</i> Last Monday morning in <i>Post-Natal.</i> each month. <i>Ultra Violet Ray</i> Tuesday and Friday after- noons weekly.
Mains Farm House, West Lane, Chester-le-Street. Telephone No. 3286.	<i>Ante-Natal</i> ... Tuesday weekly and Thurs- day mornings weekly. <i>Child Welfare</i> Wednesdays weekly. <i>Birth Control—</i> Thursday afternoon except <i>Post-Natal.</i> first afternoon in month. <i>Ultra Violet Ray</i> Monday and Friday after- noons weekly. <i>Immunisations</i> ... First Thursday afternoon in month.
Miners' Welfare Hall, West Pelton.	<i>Ante-Natal</i> ... Alternate Wednesdays. <i>Child Welfare</i> ... Alternate Wednesdays.
Old Relief Office, Front Street, Sacriston.	<i>Ante-Natal</i> ... Alternate Thursday morn- ings. <i>Child Welfare</i> ... Alternate Thursday morn- ings and Thursday after- noons (3 weeks out of 4 weeks ) <i>Birth Control—</i> Thursday afternoons every <i>Post-Natal.</i> 4 weeks.

(c) *Domiciliary Midwifery & Home Nursing Services*

Working in the district there are 2 district nurse-midwives, 4 district nurses and 4 district midwives. In addition several nurses and midwives, the bulk of whose work is in an adjoining area, serve cases in the Chester-le-Street Rural District.

A summary of the work done is given below:—

	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Visits.</i>
Midwifery and Maternity ... ..	355	10,658
Hospital cases discharged home for nursing ... ..	62	
General Nursing ... ..	1,583	19,591
	<hr/> 2,000 <hr/>	<hr/> 30,249 <hr/>

Of the above total 7,485 visits were for injection only and 139 for observation regarding the loan of appliances.

(d) *Ambulance Service*

This service is run by the County Council. The Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural Districts are served principally by the ambulance depot situated at Osborne Road, Chester-le-Street. This depot is in charge of a head driver and has an establishment of 15 drivers and 6 ambulances. All requests for ambulance transport reach the depot via the Durham Control which is manned by a team of 4 clerk-telephonists maintaining a 24-hour service.

When necessary, either in the interests of economy or in order to reinforce the Chester-le-Street Depot, vehicles from the neighbouring depot are utilised in the transport of patients in the area.



Figures showing the extent to which the service is used are given below:—

No. of calls	No. of Journeys	Patients carried			Mileage
		Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
6,836	5,248	3,140	17,909	21,049	109,281

(e) *Domestic Help*

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies.

*Domestic Help cases during 1954.*

Cases provided with home help at 1st January, 1954	153
New cases ... ..	70
Cases provided with home help during the year ...	223
Maternity Cases ... ..	2
Old Age Pensioners ... ..	213
Sickness Cases ... ..	7
Tuberculosis ... ..	1
Number of home helps employed — 120	223

(f) *Prevention of Illness Care and Aftercare*

Under this section of the National Health Service Act the Durham County Council supply nursing requisites on loan to those needing them. A fee is charged, the assessment of which depends on income and the type of article borrowed. All the articles are stored in Durham City and have to be brought out to the place where they are required.

(g) *School Health Service*

The School Health Service is run by the Durham County Council from the headquarters in Durham City.

The clinic for the bulk of Chester-le-Street Rural District school children is in Birtley. The clinic is open daily and is attended on Monday and Wednesday by a School Medical Officer.

Routine medical inspections of children are carried out in the schools by a School Medical Officer.

### (3) Hospital Services

The hospitals in Chester-le-Street are administered by the Durham Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board.

#### *Outpatients Clinics*

##### (a) *Tuberculosis*

Consultations by appointment at Chest Clinic, Ropery Lane, Chester-le-Street (Tel.: 3317).

##### (b) *Venereal Diseases*

Confidential treatment is provided free at the following centres, appointment not being required:—

(i) Newcastle General Hospital: Monday—Friday, 10—12 a.m., 3—7 p.m.; Saturday 11—12 a.m., 4—6 p.m.

(ii) County Hospital, Durham (Tel. 7) Monday to Thursday 10 a.m.—7.30 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday 1 p.m.—7 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m.—1 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m.—5.30 p.m.

##### (c) *General Hospital Chester-le-Street (Tel.: 2251)*

General medical, general surgical, ophthalmic ear, nose and throat and physiotherapy facilities are available, both as in-patients and out-patients (by appointment).

##### (d) *Psychiatry*

A psychiatric out-patient clinic is held at the County Hospital Durham, (Tel. 954) each Monday, Patients are seen *by appointment only*.

### (4) Executive Council Service

The executive council for the County of Durham is the body responsible for the administration of the General Practitioner Service in the District.

There are 8 general practitioners residing in the district.

## SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### 1. Water

Water is supplied to the district by three water undertakings, namely, the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, the National Coal Board (Lambton, Hetton and Joicey Group) and the Durham County Water Board. The distribution system is complex and in addition to direct supplies the Council distributes water.

Bacteriological sampling in 1954 gave the following results. The Ministry of Health's recommendations are given for comparison.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Ministry of Health's recommendation ... ..	50 + %	80 + %	100%	0
Samples Durham County Water Board ... ..	39 (83%)	3 (89%)	4 (98%)	1
Samples other undertakings	46 (83%)	6 (94%)	3 (100%)	—

Samples of water from the three water undertakings were sent for complete chemical analysis during the year. The results are summarised below:—

Source of Supply			
	Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co.	Lambton, Hetton & Joicey C.	Durham Co. Water Board
Chemical Results	parts per million	parts per million	parts per million
Total solids dried at 180° C ... ..	220	618	65
Chlorine as chlorides ... ..	14.2	35.5	7.1
Free Ammonia ... ..	Trace	None	0.04
Albuminoid ammonia ... ..	Trace	Trace	0.03
Nitrogen as nitrates ... ..	0.3	Trace	None
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs. at 80° F) ... ..	3.0	0.2	6.9
Total hardness ... ..	160	300	26.0
Permanent hardness ... ..	15	45	23.5
Temporary hardness ... ..	145	255	2.5
Lead and copper ... ..	None	None	None
Iron ... ..	0.2	0.1	0.2
Appearance and Colour ... ..	Pale yellow & clear	Ex. pale yellow & almost clear	Pale orange, yellow & clear
Smell and taste ... ..	S'factory	S'factory	S'factory
Microscopical examination of deposit	S'factory	S'factory	S'factory
PH value ... ..	7.2	7.3	5.6



## REPORT OF ANALYST

### Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co.

This sample of water is of very satisfactory organic purity; it has been adequately filtered and is free from odour and taste.

I am of the opinion that the water is suitable for a Public Supply.

### Lambton, Hetton & Joicey Co.

This sample of water is of excellent organic purity. It is practically colourless and clear, but its hardness is considerable.

I am of the opinion that the water is suitable for drinking, but owing to its hardness, it is not so suitable for domestic use.

### Durham County Water Board

This sample of water is of satisfactory organic purity; and it is free from suspended matter, odour or taste; it is, however, highly coloured.

I am of the opinion that the water is suitable for drinking and domestic use, but it is distinctly acid in reaction and, therefore, is likely to be corrosive.

## 2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The main constructional works were the provision of new out-fall sewers, both surface water and soil sewers, involving the laying of 3,724 yds. of various diameter pipes from 6ins. diameter to 18ins. diameter to serve the Council's Housing Estates, etc., and partial reconstructions of sewers.

Other general works of maintenance, and repairs were effected to the several hundred miles of sewers under the Council's control.

With regard to sewage disposal, apart from normal maintenance, a scheme was approved to provide new sludge drying beds and pumping main at the Edmondsley Works at a cost of £3,062. This job was started in December, 1954, but weather conditions held up progress. It should be finished, and in operation early in 1955.

The Waldrige Works have been further improved. The general levels of all cills have been raised to rectify the damage caused by subsidence and improve the operation head in the dosing chamber. Additional sludge drying beds have been provided and these works will function very satisfactorily as the result of this work.

The works at Grange Villa have had to receive additional attention to maintain their function at a reasonable standard pending the construction of the proposed outfall sewer linking with the Chester-le-Street Urban Council works in the Pelton Fell area.

It is hoped to have the schemes for Grange Villa, Floaters Mill and Birtley submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in the early part of 1955.

### **3. Closet Accommodation**

No general scheme of conversion has been done during 1954.

The Council continued to give financial assistance to owners and owner occupiers, towards the cost of the conversion.

There were 65 such conversions carried out during 1954.

Calculated from the 1951 Census Report, it would appear that at the present time there are approximately 969 households without W.C. accommodation.

### **4. Public Cleansing**

This service has continued satisfactorily during 1954.

Bins continue to be emptied twice and ashpits once per week, with negligible complaint.

The Bin ownership scheme operated by the Council as a general rate charge since 1st April, 1954, has got well under way. The demands for the first year have been fairly high. It will of course take a year or two to settle down bearing in mind the long period of poor bin replacements during the war years.

Information under foregoing paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 has been largely supplied by the Surveyor.

## **5. Sanitary Inspection of the Area**

Again nuisances under the Public Health Act have been largely abated by persuasion, it only being necessary to serve 4 formal notices. 114 informal notices were served, 110 being complied with.

## **6. Petroleum Consolidated Act, 1928**

37 licences were issued during the year for the storage of 37,440 gallons of petrol. 8 licences were issued for the storage of 1,001 tons, 17 cwt., 6 stones, 4 lb. of calcium carbide and two licences were granted for the storage of 105 gallons of naphtha.





## 7. Rats and Mice, (Prevention and Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

		<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>All Other inc. inc.</i>	<i>Total of Agri- Col. (1) cul- (2) &amp; (3) tural</i>	
	<i>Local Council Auth'ty Houses</i>		<i>B'ness P'mses</i>		
Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) ... ..	105	11874	1102	13081	176
Number of <i>properties inspected</i> as a result of:—					
Notification ... ..	—	33	—	33	—
(b) Survey under the Act	59	363	72	494	84
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of <i>properties inspected</i> (in Sect. II) which were found to be <i>infested</i> by:—					
(a) Rats—					
Major ... ..	4	—	—	4	1
Minor ... ..	17	99	28	144	8
(b) Mice—					
Major ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ... ..	—	28	9	37	—
Number of <i>infested properties</i> in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sect. IV) ... ..	21	127	37	185	9
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

The general condition of the area is reasonably satisfactory.

Leaflets illustrating methods for householders, and detailing the provisions of the Act, together with the Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks Regulations, 1950, are available from the Health Department.

## 8. Swimming Baths and Pools

During the year 12 samples of water for bacteriological examination have been taken from the two swimming baths; 1 only was unsatisfactory.

## 9. Disinfestation, Eradication of Bed Bugs, Flies, etc.

17 cases were dealt with during the year: in 2 cases bedding required special treatment, 1 was destroyed. 10 cases of beetles were dealt with and no cases of ants or lice.

## 10. Atmospheric Pollution

During the course of the 12 months, 44 observations were made on various chimneys in the area, none of which proved to be a nuisance within the meaning of the Act.

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

## Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspect- tions</i>	<i>Written notice</i>	<i>Occu- piers prosecuted</i>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	3	12	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Authority ... ..	80	300	1	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	8	60	—	—
TOTAL ...	91	372	1	—

2. Cases in which defects were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. In- spector</i>	<i>by H.M. In- spector</i>	<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	—	—	—	1
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	2

## SECTION D.—HOUSING

Housing statistics for the year are given below; firstly showing action taken during the year with regard to existing properties; secondly figures for completion of new houses, and lastly allocation of houses.

**Housing Statistics**

- I. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year:—
  - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... .. 156
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 536
- II. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices ... .. 110
 

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... .. 2
- III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—
  - A—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after serving of formal notices:—

(a) By owners ... .. —

(b) By local authority in default of owners ... —

B—Proceedings under Public Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 114

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after serving formal notices 2

(b) By local authority in default of owners ... —

C—Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. 15

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in respect of pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 12

D—Proceeding under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. 2

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. —

E—Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act, 1953—section 10:—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which  
a Closing Order was made ... .. 7

## New Houses

Building of Council houses commenced in 1947 after the War, and the following is the progress:

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Total
New Permanent									
Houses ...	62	216	171	125	127	190	297	274	1462
Temporary									
Houses ...	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101
Relets ...	52	108	71	66	42	70	56	139	604
	215	324	242	191	169	260	353	413	2167

The figure of 274 new permanent houses completed includes 97 flats. The figure of ~~139~~ 483 relets is much higher than any previous year. The total of 483 houses available for letting during the year is higher than any year since the end of the war.

## Allocation of Houses During the Year

### List

A Direct Overcrowding ... ..	97
B Overcrowding and living in ... ..	42
B1 Length of time married and living in ... ..	82
C Dangerous property ... ..	12
M.O.H. recommendation ... ..	2
Homeless on Eviction ... ..	7
Relieve Req. Property ... ..	2
	— 23
Single Persons Flats .. ..	48

Aged Persons' Houses relet	...	...	...	...	21
Aged Persons' Flats	...	...	...	...	48
Special Housing for travelling miners	...	...	...	...	52
					<hr/> 413

In addition to the above there were 188 transfers and exchanges granted, involving 323 families, largely relieving overcrowding, on health grounds, economic reasons and to place people nearer to work.

The figures showing the allocation of houses during the year have been supplied by the Housing Manager.

## Unfit Houses

There were at the end of the year 138 houses which had been condemned at some time in the past, and were still in occupation. The number of unfit houses at the end of 1954 was estimated at 1,200. The standard set down in the Repairs and Rents Act, 1953, is of course rather different to what held good previously, so that this figure might need to be altered in the light of experience under the new Act.

The Council was at the end of the year allocating 15 per cent. of lettings to rehouse persons from condemned property. Depending on the number of houses built it will take from three to five years to deal with those already condemned quite apart from any additions which will be added from time to time.

It seems obvious that something must be done to tackle this problem more realistically, and it is to be hoped that further consideration of the matter by a sub-committee will bring about a definite and improved Slum Clearance programme during 1955.

During 1954 no Improvement Grants had been made. From a long term viewpoint it would appear that the improvement of property now will save the Council a great deal of expense in the future. By prolonging the life of suitable property at the present time the demand for Council houses in the years to come could be considerably reduced.



Quite apart from this aspect of the problem, we have in the area many houses which, whilst structurally sound, lack any idea of modern amenities. Living conditions for the occupants of these could be made much more pleasant and hygienic by comparatively small alterations and additions. It is to be hoped that the provision of Improvement Grants in 1955 will become part of Council policy as it is a means whereby we can improve the living conditions and thereby the well being of the population in the area.

### Medical Priority

Between August and the end of the year 45 cases in which medical priority rehousing was claimed were investigated. Many of these had of course been put on one side pending the appointment of a Medical Officer, and circumstances had in some cases altered. Following these investigations 17 were recommended to the Housing Committee for priority rehousing on medical grounds. •

Since the number of houses made available by the Council for this purpose was strictly limited, only the most urgent cases were recommended. In the case of tuberculosis this meant cases where there was overcrowding or where small children were exposed to danger of infection, or where living conditions were such that no improvement in health could be expected without rehousing. The Council do not exempt from consideration any tuberculosis case on account of non-compliance with residential or marriage qualifications. (Of 12 cases recommended, five were agreed to by the Council).

With regard to diseases other than tuberculosis, the position is not, in my view, satisfactory. These cases will not be considered by the Council unless they have the necessary residential and marriage qualifications. Those cases which it was thought should have some priority were unfortunately all lacking some qualification, and so could receive no consideration. Illness is no respecter of the calendar, and these restrictions, in my view, often prevent very needy cases from having consideration.

TABLE 5

**Cases requesting priority rehousing on medical grounds**

Total number investigated during 1954: 45.

---

	Grounds for claiming priority	
	T.B.	Other Diseases
Number recommended to the Housing Com.	12	5
Number granted priority rehousing ...	5	0
Number deferred for 12 months ...	5	0

---

**SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

No special campaigns were carried out with regard to clean food during 1954. Routine work continued throughout the year.

Ice cream samples continued to be sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory. This examination does not of course include a quantitative analysis and is purely an indication of cleanliness.

All the samples sent were Grade 1, which is a highly satisfactory state of affairs.

During the year the slaughtering arrangements in the area underwent a change. Centralised slaughtering ceased to operate, with the result that in the Rural District seven private slaughter-houses came into being once again. Much of the meat now retailed in the district is bought off the hook in Newcastle or is slaughtered outside the district and brought in.

The ideal scheme, of course, would be to have centralised slaughtering at up-to-date hygienic abattoirs in the district. There does not, however, appear to be much prospect of this for many years to come.



## Ice Cream

The results of sampling for qualitative analysis as given below show that the samples were all satisfactory.

Grade	No.
1	30
2	—
3	—
4	—

## Meat and Other Foods

Figures for inspection of meat are as under.

7,319 animals were slaughtered during the year.

### MEAT:

Total weight condemned: 8 tons, 17 cwt., 2 qrs., 8 lb.

See Table No. 11, page 41.

### OTHER FOODS:

Total weight condemned: 16 cwt., 1 qr., 10 lb., 8 oz.

See Table No. 11, page 42.

## (a) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

On the register at 31st December, 1954.

Dairies (not dairy farms) ...	...	...	...	...	2
-------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

## (b) Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Following licences issued during 1954.

Dealers' Licences to use the designation T.T. ...	...	1
---	-----	---

## (c) Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949

The following licences were issued during 1954.

Dealers' Licences to use special designation Pasteurised	12
--	----

Dealers' Licences to use special designation Sterilised ...	67
---	----

Dealers' Licences to use special designation T.T. Pasteurised ...	6
--	---

Supplementary Licences for above ...	7
--------------------------------------	---

**(d) Food and Drugs Act, 1938**

Premises registered under Act:

Ice Cream Sale and Storage	...	...	...	...	84
Premises manufacturing Sausages, Potted Meats and Preserved Foods	...	...	...	...	41

**Number of Other Food Premises in the Area**

Restaurants and Canteens	...	...	...	...	11
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	3

**Shops**

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	18
General Dealers/Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	111
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	29
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	20
Licensed Premises (Hotels and Bars, including Workmen's Clubs)	...	...	...	...	...	68

**Adulteration of Food**

Durham County Council is the body responsible for administration of the Food and Drugs Act (Adulteration Act) 1928, etc.

## **SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

423 notifications were received against 574 the previous year, of which nine were not confirmed. The decrease in measles was a prominent feature, there being a decrease of 80.

**Scarlet Fever**

There were 85 notifications during the year, as compared with 102 for 1953. Of these 78 were treated in hospital.

It is of interest to note that 51 of the 85 cases notified during the year occurred in the Parish of Birtley.

Lamesley showed ten cases and Sacriston ten. The remaining fourteen cases were scattered throughout the area. In other words three parishes with a total population of 20,449 produced 82 per cent. of the Scarlet Fever in the Rural District. Birtley itself with a population which is 30 per cent. of the total for the District had 60 per cent. of the cases.

It is hardly likely that these figures could be the result of lack of notification in other parts of the district. Birtley is, of course, the largest "town" in the district, and this preponderance of cases could be simply one of the unfortunate results of urbanisation. The attack rate for the disease in Birtley was 4.2 per 1,000 population in 1954, which is extremely high.

The other outstanding feature in connection with Scarlet Fever in this Rural District is the frequency with which cases are admitted to hospital. If we compare the figures with those for Newcastle County Borough we find that out of 85 cases notified in this Rural District, 78 were admitted to hospital, whereas in Newcastle in 1954 141 cases were notified and only three admitted to hospital.

It is generally recognised now that there is some risk in admitting these cases to hospital except where the condition of the patient or the condition of the home warrants it. One can hardly think that all cases admitted either had complications or were from unsatisfactory homes.

### Diphtheria

For the second consecutive year there were no cases of Diphtheria notified in the district.

The triumph of preventive medicine over this disease is something about which all the services concerned must be proud.

The table below shows how this disease has been eradicated from the district within the past ten years.

DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS, 1945-54

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of Cases	60	36	12	6	10	0	2	1	0	0
Deaths	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

However, we must not be complacent about the position, and we must persist in our efforts to persuade all mothers to have their children immunised. If once we slacken in our efforts the disease will again show itself as the killer of children which it was in bygone days.

The number immunised during the year were as under:—

Primary—0 - 5 years	...	...	...	...	448
5 - 15 years	...	...	...	...	12
					<hr/>
					460
Boosters	...	...	...	...	200

### Poliomyelitis

There were four cases notified during the year. This was an increase of three on the figure for the previous year. There were no deaths from this disease during the year.

Whilst the number of notifications of this disease is small, there is no doubt that there is great consternation throughout any area in which a case occurs. The reason for this is, of course, the fact that the sequelae of the disease frequently remain with the unfortunate victim for the rest of his or her life. However, it is true to say that the majority of cases survive without anything to show that they have suffered from the disease.

Great advances are being made in connection with vaccination against the disease and the general feeling is that a satisfactory solution to the problem will be produced in the near future.

### Measles

There were 108 cases notified during the year, as compared with 188 during 1953.

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#### NOTIFICATION OF MEASLES

---

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of Cases ...	406	520	372	565	224	724	188	108

---

Once again we have had a year with comparatively few cases of measles. In the report for 1953, I remarked that in 1954 there would probably be a large number of cases notified. This has not materialised, but it can be safely stated that 1955 will show a big rise in the figure as compared with 1954.

### Whooping Cough

There were only 87 cases notified during 1954, a decrease of 82, as compared with 1953.

NOTIFICATION OF WHOOPING COUGH								
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of Cases ...	37	117	140	175	120	126	169	87

The number of cases notified is the smallest since 1947. The general practitioners in the district are in some cases using the combined immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough. Whether this can be responsible for any decrease in the number of cases is doubtful.

### Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)

In the district there were six deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis as against eight the previous year. New notifications number 49, the figure for 1953 being 26.

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS DUE TO PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS								
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of Cases ...	55	57	38	46	56	37	26	49
Deaths ...	14	21	21	12	9	10	8	6



The figures show that the number of deaths continues to fall, but there has been during the year a most unsatisfactory rise in the number of notifications. The figure for the year was almost double that for 1953. In the case of Birtley the figure has risen from ten notifications in 1953 to 24 in 1954. Pelton shows a rise from five notifications in 1953 to nine in 1954.

It is often stated that the rise in notification is due to visits of the Mass Radiography Unit. In Birtley, following the visit in March, 1954, only two new active cases were discovered, so that this visit could hardly be blamed for the increase. It may be that this rise is only incidental, and that 1955 will show a return to a much lower figure.

Whatever the cause, it does show that we must continue with our efforts in prevention—satisfactory housing, hygiene, adequate health education, satisfactory working conditions, etc.

Whilst the improvements in treatment are most welcome, we must continue with our preventive measures.

One additional measure which it is hoped will be introduced in the district in 1955 is B.C.G. vaccination for school leavers. As can be seen from the tables, 15 of the cases notified during the year fell in the age group 15-25 years. It is in this group that we should materially improve the position by a scheme for B.C.G. vaccination of school leavers.

### **Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

There were four new cases notified as against nine for 1953. There were no deaths.



## Mass Radiography Unit

During the year the Mass Radiography Unit visited Birtley for the period from 1st to 12th March. Figures below show numbers X-rayed and abnormal results discovered.

Number X-rayed		M.	F.	Total
(a) Miniature Film	... ..	1143	554	1697
(b) Recalled for Large Film	...	35	9	44

### Abnormalities Revealed—

(a) Non-tuberculous conditions	...	2	1	3
--------------------------------	-----	---	---	---

(b) Pulmonary Tuberculosis				
Previously known—				

(1) Active	... ..	1	1	2
------------	--------	---	---	---

(2) Inactive	... ..	—	—	—
--------------	--------	---	---	---

### Newly discovered—

(1) Active	... ..	1	1	2
------------	--------	---	---	---

(2) Inactive	... ..	29	5	34
--------------	--------	----	---	----



TABLE 6

<i>Age at Death</i>	1953		1954	
	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>%</i>
Under 1 year ... ..	21	4.9	23	5.0
1-4 years ... ..	4	0.9	2	0.4
5-14 years ... ..	1	0.2	2	0.4
15-24 years ... ..	10	2.4	8	1.7
25-44 years ... ..	27	6.3	30	6.5
45-64 years ... ..	106	24.8	104	22.8
65-74 years ... ..	114	26.6	127	27.8
75 years and upwards ...	145	33.9	162	35.4

TABLE 7

**STATISTICS OF THE 15 PARISHES FORMING THE CHESTER-LE STREET RURAL DISTRICT.**

	Acreage (acres)	No. of Inhabited Houses	Deaths
Biddick South ... ..	348	11	
Birtley ... ..	1429	3283	133
Bournmoor ... ..	513	490	9
Edmondsley ... ..	2099	431	13
Harraton ... ..	2669	881	25
Lambton ... ..	697	28	7
Lamesley ... ..	5679	1310	52
Lumley Great ... ..	1642	473	16
Lumley Little ... ..	875	391	16
Ouston ... ..	641	327	16
Pelton ... ..	926	1745	85
Plawsworth ... ..	1248	458	13
Urpeth ... ..	1825	596	16
Waldridge ... ..	725	183	7
Sacrison ... ..	<del>940</del> 910	1495	50
	<del>22281</del> 22226	12102	458



# SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

## General Summary

	Number of Inspections	Number of Informal Notices Served	Number of Statutory Notices Served	Defects remedied after Notice	Legal Proceedings & General Remarks
Housing:—					
Public Health & Housing Acts ... ..	452	114	4	440	
Overcrowding ... ..	4	—	—	—	
Sanitary Accom.:—					
Insufficient ... ..	40	20	—	20	
Defective ... ..	6	—	—	—	
Drainage ... ..	10	4	—	4	
Water Supply ... ..	3	3	—	3	
Food Premises ... ..	200	—	—	—	
Shops Act (Sect. 10) ... ..	210	—	—	—	
Dairies ... ..	—	—	—	—	
Slaughter Houses:—					
Public ... ..	—	—	—	—	
Private ... ..	104	—	—	—	
Tents, Vans, etc. ... ..	60	—	—	—	
Offensive Trades ... ..	—	—	—	—	
Factories & Workplaces... ..	300	1	—	1	
Keeping of Animals ... ..	6	—	—	—	
Insanitary Asbpts & Receptacles ... ..	7	7	—	7	
Offensive accumulations ... ..	—	—	—	—	
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	50	21	—	21	
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ... ..	2033	—	—	—	
TOTALS ... ..	3485	170	4	496	

TABLE 8.

TABLE 9.

**Summary of Works carried out**

Defective kitchen floor	...	...	...	...	1
Chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	2
Defective roof	...	...	...	...	27
Defective kitchen range	...	...	...	...	21
Sashcords	...	...	...	...	11
Threshwoods	...	...	...	...	5
Defective W.C.	...	...	...	...	6
Defective sink	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness	...	...	...	...	40
Defective wallplaster	...	...	...	...	33
Defective draining board	...	...	...	...	1
Defective drain	...	...	...	...	7
Defective pantry	...	...	...	...	10
Defective doors	...	...	...	...	19
Defective yard surface	...	...	...	...	3
Defective outhouses	...	...	...	...	8
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	16
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	15
Defective eavespouts, etc.	...	...	...	...	27
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	...	15
Defective wastepipes	...	...	...	...	10
Tap washer	...	...	...	...	1
Burst pipes	...	...	...	...	6
Defective yard brickwork	...	...	...	...	1
Water supplies	...	...	...	...	3
Pointing, walls	...	...	...	...	10
Defective fireplaces	...	...	...	...	4
Defective yard steps	...	...	...	...	1
Defective setpots	...	...	...	...	3
Defective ash closet slides	...	...	...	...	7

TABLE 10

## MEAT INSPECTION

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle including		Sheep	
	Cows	Calves	& Lambs	Pigs
No. killed (if known) ...	947	32	3823	2517
No. Inspected ...	947	32	3823	2517
<i>All Diseases except T.B.—</i>				
Whole carcases condemned ...	3	4	9	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	220	—	46	62
Percentage of the number ins- pected affected with disease other than T.B. ...	23.5	12.5	1.4	2.7
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>				
Whole carcases condemned ...	4	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	62	—	—	58
Percentage of the number ins- pected affected with T.B. ...	7.0	—	—	2.3

TABLE 11.

The following meat and other foods were condemned and dealt with in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Food:

	Sts.	lb.		Sts.	lb.
Livers ...	214	2	Skirt ...	1	10
Lungs ...	48	4	Guts ...	18	5
Heads and Tongues .	295	3	Tripe ...	6	0
Beef ...	438	10	Rabbits ...	171	10
Mutton ...	39	7	Fat ...	11	10
Offal ...	35	4	Udders ...	6	2
Viscera ...	31	6	Hearts ...	1	10
Plucks ...	39	1	Veal ...	2	9
Pork ...	57	9	Sausage ...	1	4
				1420	8

Total weight condemned: 8 tons, 17 cwt., 2 qrs., 8 lb.

**Other Foods**

	lb. oz.			lb. oz.	
Tinned Meats ...	671	0	Rice ...	1	8
Tinned Vegetables ...	92	8	Cheese ...	62	0
Tinned Tomatoes ...	260	8	Pork Sausage ...	62	0
Tinned Fruit ...	367	12	Bacon ...	64	0
Tinned Milk ...	114	0	Butter ...	32	0
Tinned Beans ...	10	0	Cake ...	48	4
Tinned Peas ...	17	0	Crabmeat ...		8
Tinned Carrots ...	1	4	Jellied Veal ...	3	0
Tinned Beetroot ...	1	0	Sauce ...	1	8
Tinned Fish ...	5	8	Margarine ...	1	0
Tinned Paste ...		4	Ham ...	2	4
Tinned Soup ...	2	0	Puddings ...	6	0
Fishcakes ...	3	12			
					<hr/>
					1830 8
					<hr/>

Total weight condemned: 16 cwt., 1 qr., 10 lb., 8 oz.



TABLE 12.  
Infectious Disease Notifications since 1945.

DISEASE	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	5	...
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	70	49	59	189	176	83	133	140	102	85
Diphtheria	60	36	12	6	10	...	2	1	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	5	1	3	2	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	5	10	9	4	2	6	1	1	3	...
Polionmyelitis	...	...	13	...	...	6	1	8	1	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	83	94	70	120	125	138	114	70	47	60
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	2	7	4	4	2	3	2	5	3
Erysipelas	25	11	8	20	8	4	1	1	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	2	3	...	...	1	...	...	1
Dysentery	...	1	2	...	1	5	1	1	7	9
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	33	58	55	57	38	46	56	37	26	49
" Non-pulmonary	10	22	20	15	17	11	13	11	9	4
Measles	648	233	406	520	372	565	224	742	188	108
Whooping Cough	95	131	37	117	140	175	120	126	169	87
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
†Diagnosis not confirmed	42	30	35	35	68	22	21	19	11	9

† Due to Quarterly Infectious Return

TABLE 13. INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1954.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AT AGES—YEARS								TOWNSHIPS												Total No. Notified	Removed to Hospitals																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
	Under 1	1 to 5	6 to 15	16 to 25	26 to 45	46 to 65	66 up	At all ages	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December			Biddick South	Birtley	Bourne-moor	Edmondsley	Harraton	Lambton	Lamesley	Lumley Great	Lumley Little	Ouston	Pelton	Plawsworth	Urpeth	Waldridge	Sacroston																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
Encephallitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TABLE 14

The attack rates of the notifiable diseases per 1,000 of the civilian population for the Rural District, compared with the rates for England and Wales are shown in the following table:

<i>Disease</i>				<i>Chester-le-Street Rural District</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	2.07	0.96
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	0.00
Typhoid	...	...	...	—	0.00
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	—	0.01
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.04	0.01
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	1.45	0.59
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	—	0.03
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2.11	2.39
Measles	...	...	...	2.63	3.32





TABLE 15.  
CANCER DEATHS (AGE GROUPS AND SITES.)

AGE GROUP	Buccal Cavity (A44)		Stomach (A46)		Intestines except Rectum (A47)		Rectum (A48)	Trachea Lungs ETL. (A50)		Breast (A51)	Uterus (A52 & 53)	Prostate (A54)	All others		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	F.	F.	F.	M.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-4 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-14 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-24 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25-44 ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	1	...	2	3
45-64 ...	1	1	5	2	3	4	1	9	...	3	1	...	5	9	24	21
65-74 ...	...	...	3	2	2	2	2	6	...	2	...	...	1	3	14	10
75 and upwards	1	1	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	4	...	6	9
TOTAL ...	2	2	8	10	5	8	3	1	...	9	1	...	11	12	46	43

N.B. Group Nos. refer to Intermediate List of 150 causes (International Classification)

TABLE 16

The following table gives the vital statistics of the district for 1954 and previous years:

Year	Estimated Resident Population Mid-Year	Births		Deaths		Infant Mortality Rate †	Maternal Mortality Rate ‡
		No.	Crude Rate*	No.	Crude Rate*		
1944	38,780	808	20.0	449	11.6	75	3.72
1945	39,190	778	19.0	480	12.2	64	2.57
1946	40,720	907	21.4	452	11.1	47	0.00
1947	40,970	845	20.6	482	11.7	58	1.14
1948	40,850	851	20.8	438	10.7	50	3.45
1949	41,270	714	17.3	490	11.9	46	0.00
1950	41,180	729	17.7	488	11.9	47	1.32
1951	40,670	700	17.2	496	12.2	46	1.39
1952	40,710	672	16.5	438	10.8	33	0.00
1953	41,430	697	17.2	428	10.3	30	0.00
1954	41,110	658	16.3	458	11.1	35	0.00

\* Per 1,000 population. (total.)

† Per 1,000 live births. (registered.)

‡ Per 1,000 (live and still) births. (registered.)

TABLE 17.

	1896	1921	1954
Population ... ..	58,000	71,580	41,110
Births ... ..	2,157	2,298	658
Crude Birth Rate ... ..	38.09	31.82	16.3
Deaths ... ..	1,083	851	458
Crude Death Rate ... ..	19.00	13.03	11.1
Infant Deaths ... ..	394	270	23
Infant Mortality Rate ... ..	182	117	35
Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases ... ..	212	126	—
Scarlet Fever Cases ... ..	553	378	85
Typhoid Fever Cases ... ..	108	6	—
Diphtheria Cases ... ..	57	130	—

TABLE 18.

New cases and mortality from Tuberculosis during 1954:—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1-4 ...	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
5-14 ...	4	3	...	1	...	...	...	...
15-24 ...	6	11	1	...	...	...	...	...
25-44 ...	3	11	...	...	3	1	...	...
45-64 ...	6	1	...	1	2	...	...	...
65-74 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
75 & over ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	22	27	1	3	5	1	...	...

TABLE 19

Notifications and deaths occurring in the Rural District during the past five years:

Year	<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1950 ...	...	46	11	1
1951 ...	...	56	13	5
1952 ...	...	37	11	—
1953 ...	...	26	9	1
1954 ...	...	49	4	—

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register were as follows:

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
December 31st, 1950 ...	196	159	85	104	544
December 31st, 1951 ...	220	177	87	110	594
December 31st, 1952 ...	168	134	31	47	380
December 31st, 1953 ...	159	128	27	42	356
December 31st, 1954 ...	166	127	28	40	361

\* 8.8 per 1,000 civilian population.



